

11° 32' E. This specimen has been compared with the two adult females of *S. l. lynesii* from Nsombo (one of them the type) and one from Ngitwa, north-eastern Zambia, in the British Museum (Natural History), detailed by Benson and Irwin (1966). As these authors state, there is some individual variation, though all three specimens, together with three other females of *lynesei* in the National Museum, Bulawayo, show the same overall characters of colour and colour-pattern, so that they are easily distinguished from females of any other species of *Sarothrura*. Unquestionably the Obala specimen shows these same characters; it has the centres of the feathers of the crown and nape (and sides of the head) markedly chestnut, as in the two from Nsombo, and in the pattern of streaking on the mantle is identical with the Ngitwa specimen. Benson and Irwin note the extent of white on the abdomen as also variable, and as well developed in the Ngitwa specimen, while in the one from Obala it is still more extensive. Nevertheless it is probably only subspecifically separable on size, and not on any other character. Measurements (in millimetres) are as follows:

	Number of specimens	Wing	Tarsus	Middle toe with claw	Culmen from base
Obala, Cameroun	1	82	22	27	15
Nsombo and Ngitwa, n.e. Zambia	5	71-74	17-19	24-25	13-14
Inyanga, Rhodesia	1	70	20.5	27	13.5

There is another specimen of nominate *lynesei* in Paris from Obala, obtained by the same collectors on 4th December, 1967. It is immature, the plumage mainly uniform blackish, with a dingy white chin, though with some adult female-like feathers appearing, mainly on the chest and wing-coverts. Its measurements are: wing 79, tarsus 20, middle toe with claw 26, culmen from base 13 mm. According to the investigations of Keith *et al.* (in press), of the rate of development of young birds in the genus as a whole, and see also in particular Liversidge (1968), it is probably not much more than six weeks old (from data of hatching), perhaps from an egg laid in late September.

These two specimens from Cameroun were obtained in an islet of savanna, surrounded by the type of equatorial forest which reaches near Obala its northern limit, see Keay *et al.* (1959).

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Zonotrichia albicollis in continental Europe

In vol. 89, no. 1 of your journal Dr. A. Hoogerwerf and Mr. M. J. Tekke recorded the first White-throated Sparrow for the Netherlands. Since they, in the title of their note, ask if the record is the first for continental Europe, I write to inform you that the species has been found at least twice in Fenno-

scandia. In 1963, on 5th December, one was caught and ringed in Malmö, southern Sweden and in 1967, from 23rd June to 20th July, a single male was singing near the town of Kotka on the southern coast of Finland. Both specimens were photographed.

KAURI MIKKOLA,
P. Rautatiek 13,
Helsinki 10, Finland.

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A Northern Pintail x Chiloe Wigeon hybrid

by Bryan L. Sage

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Hybrids between the Northern Pintail *Anas a. acuta* L. and the Chiloe Wigeon *Anas sibilatrix* Poeppig do not appear to be of very frequent occurrence. Annie P. Gray (1958) states that "Presumed hybrids have been reported". This statement is no doubt based on the records listed by Hopkinson (1935a & b) and Rothschild (1929). The latter record refers to a female hybrid. So far as I have been able to ascertain no descriptions of the plumage characters of either sex of these hybrids have been published.

The present paper describes a male hybrid from a drake Northern Pintail mated to a Chiloe Wigeon and prepared as a study skin in December 1964 when it was in full adult plumage. The specimen is now in the writer's collection together with a female of the same parentage. It is hoped to describe this female and that listed by Rothschild (*op. cit.*) in a later paper. Due to the widely differing geographical distribution of these two species there is no question of hybrids occurring in the wild. Nevertheless, intra-generic hybrids of this type, even though obtainable only under conditions of captivity, are worth study as they often exhibit characters of phylogenetic interest.

The plumage characters, measurements and colours of soft parts of the hybrid and the parental species of equivalent sex are shown below:

Plumage characters and measurements of Northern Pintail x Chiloe Wigeon male and parental species

	<i>Pintail</i>	<i>hybrid</i>	<i>Chiloe Wigeon</i>
Head	Crown and nape dark black-brown with greenish and purple metallic reflections on nape; cheeks, chin, throat and sides of neck deep brown; broad white band from hind crown down each side of nape to breast.	Dark blackish-brown with marked broad metallic-green stripe from eyes to nape; faint purplish sheen on sides of neck and head.	Palish brown with forehead, lores and face whitish; narrow post-ocular greenish stripe.